

Monroe County Domestic Violence Task Force
McCloskey Conference Room—Showers City Hall
January 17, 2014
Noon -1pm

Attending: Julie Robertson, Monroe County Probation; Jackie Dakich, Monroe County Prosecutor's Office; Josie Luce, Monroe County Prosecutor's Office; Stepanka Korytova, Indiana University; Audry Hicks, IU Health Bloomington Hospital; Alphonso Manns, Attorney in private practice; Sarah Kupferberg, Protective Order Project; Virginia White, Middle Way House; Toby Strout, Middle Way House; Brad Swain, Monroe County Sheriff's Office; Maqube Reese, City of Bloomington CFRD; Bob Miller, Monroe County Prosecutor's Office; Alex Lee, Pro Bono Immigration Project; Aleksandrina Pratt, Pro Bono Immigration Project; Donovoan Wood, Pro Bono Immigration Project; Tyler Targenning, Pro Bono Immigration Project; Kamia Shenoy, Pro Bono Immigration Project; Melissa Orizondo, Pro Bono Immigration Project; Matt Fuss, Pro Bono Immigration Project; Pablo Escodedo, Pro Bono Immigration Project; Joel Bonilla Blondet, Pro Bono Immigration Project; Karina Zazueta, Pro Bono Immigration Project

- I. Following introductions the discussion focused on the topic of changing the name of focus of the task force. A few members stated task force meetings have become dull and a name change would expand the pervue of the task force. The task force was formed in 1991 and experienced a shift in administration and meeting format in 2007. The suggested name change is "Monroe County Task Force on Gendered Violence & Exploitation. With this name change the suggested focus of the task force would expand to include sexual assault, exploitation and trafficking in addition to domestic violence.

Jackie Dakich explained that in the 1993 task force mission statement/purpose specifically stated that it would focus on domestic violence as a legal category. Several members felt to make all of these issues a part of the overall focus ran the risk of diluting each of the issues and none of them would receive the proper attention. A Sexual Assault Response Team currently exists and meets quarterly. Perhaps creating an umbrella committee which would host sub-committees with a particular issue focus would be a better way to address this.

Questions and concerns included defining the audience for the task force and determining how the task force might be energized.

It was suggested that instead of a name change for the task force that we examine the relationships between the various issues; come up with recommendations with an emphasis on trying to find solutions; open communication between the various groups working on these issues (include other interested groups); and schedule a presentation by the Sexual Assault Response Team. There was consensus that there is also a need for P.R. and additional outreach to let the community know the task force exists and the types of issues being addressed.

II. Future Meetings – The next meeting will take place February 21, 2014 with Brad Swain as facilitator.